Decision on the funding pattern of Suburban railway component of BUTP—II

6809. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a meeting between the representatives of the Ministry of Railways and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, the funding pattern of suburban railway component of BUTP—II was decided upon;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the mode for funding the railway share of the cost; and

(c) the details of the railway property development scheme contemplated for funding the project?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Investment of rail Projects in BUTP—II will be shared between Railways and the State Government of Maharashtra in the ratio of 50: 50 The recovery of this investment will be done through an additional surcharge on suburban rail tickets which will, after taking care of operational losses, if any, also be shared between Railways and the State Government in the ratio of 50: 50. To meet the Railways's portion of funding, it was decided that subject to Government's permission for commercial utilisation of land, earnings from the property development on the Railways land in Bombay area, will be utilised by the Railways at 1/3rd in rail Projects in Bombay area, another 1/3rd in rail Projects in Maharashtra area and the remaining 1/3rd elsewhere in the country. It was also agreed that the Planning Commission would be requested to allocate additional funds to the Railways beyond its plan size for funding railway's portion of the proposed expenditure.

(c) Policy guidelines on this issue are to be issued by Ministry of Urban Development. Ministry of Railways will observe these guidelines.

Scheme for completion of railway projects in Gujarat

6810. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any scheme for the completion of various on going railway projects in Gujarat States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount allocated for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Conversion of Phulera Marwar-Ahmedabad (572 kms out of which 142 kms are in Gujarat), Viramgam-Mahesana (65 kms.) is targetted for completion by 1995-96. Gauge conversion of Rajkot-Veraval (185 kms) has been included in the Budget for 1994-95 and will be completed in 1997-98. Rs. 125.40 crores have been allocated for these projects in the current year's Budget

Extension of gauge conversion upto Dibrugarh from Lumding in Assam

6811. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for not extending the broad gauge line upto Dibrugarh from Lumding in Assam; and

(b) by when Government propose to start the extention work and by when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Broad gauge is being extended from Lumding upto Dibrugarh.

(b) Work has already been started and is expected to be completed by 31.3.97.